Policy on export of raw materials for steel

642. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, being the world's third largest iron-ore producer, is framing a long-term policy on export of raw materials used to make steel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) to what extent it would be different from the present one;

(d) whether, under existing policy, India allows free export of iron ore with a ferrous content of less than 64 percent but a licence is needed for selling high-grade iron-ore; and

(e) if so, to what extent these measures will be considered in the new policy to make it more flexible?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The export policy for raw materials like iron ore, chrome ore and manganese ore has already been formulated and notified by Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Foreign Trade Policy, which is valid from 1.4.2004 to 31.3.2009. The existing policy for export of iron ore is already flexible in the way that iron ore with ferrous content upto 64% is free for exports, while exports of high-grade iron ore (64% Fe and above) are canalized through Metal and Minerals Trading Corporation Limited. In relaxation to the policy, mine-owners who have suprlus iron ore after meeting the demand of domestic industry and MMTC are also allowed to export hign-grade iron ore under licence.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Employment to displaced families at VSP

643. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families who lost their lands due to acquisition of their lands by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant Authority;